

## MRS. HALL BARRED FROM GRAND JURY

Mott Decides Against Plea  
of Rector's Widow, Even  
Waiving Immunity.

### NEW CLEW IN LETTERS

Love Missives Found With  
Bodies Planted by Third  
Person, Is Belief.

### SPY ON PAIR TO TESTIFY

Members of Choir Also Will  
Be Called This Week to  
Tell of Quarrels.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.  
NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J., Nov. 25.—Mrs. Frances Stevens Hall, widow of the slain rector of the Church of St. John the Evangelist, will not be allowed to appear before the Grand Jury of Somerset county, which is investigating the murder of her husband and of Mrs. Eleanor Mills, choir singer, although the resumption of the inquiry on Monday is likely to develop some interesting new phases.

Members of the choir will give testimony relating to the affairs of the choir, the attitude of Hall toward the choir singers other than Mrs. Mills on at least one occasion and the conduct of one member of the choir and a man relative about the time of the murder.

There is reason to believe that William Mott, Special Deputy Attorney-General, has unearthed some material that has not been made public. To-day Mott's chief aid, Lieut. James M. Mott, with some of the State troopers, were in town checking up some of this new evidence. They made another survey of the scene of the crime and the Phillips farm. One new character mentioned as a probable witness before the Grand Jury lives nearer to the Phillips farm than to New Brunswick.

#### Mott's Action No Surprise.

The fact that Mrs. Hall is not to have her request granted was learned from as high an authority as there is in the case. It had been believed for some days that Mr. Mott would not permit Mrs. Hall to testify, even if she did waive immunity, as she was ready to do. To-day it was learned that there is no possibility of her request being granted.

Timothy N. Pfeiffer, counselor for Mrs. Hall, when informed of this development evinced no surprise.

Clifford Hayes will probably be the first witness called on Monday, but Mr. Mott's object in putting young Hayes on the stand is not clear, unless he intends to put before the Grand Jury every scrap of evidence and every possible collateral line of testimony that has come up. Hayes knows nothing about the crime itself. He is the boy that Raymond Schneider "confessed" did the killing. Schneider recanted later and Hayes was released.

Louise Gelat and Barbara Tough, Hall servants, are to be called after Hayes and it is likely that the members of the choir and Ralph V. Carpenter will follow. There is talk that Edwin Carpenter, cousin of Mrs. Hall, is to be called and that Mrs. Jane Gibson will also testify on Monday. As far as can be learned, Edwin Carpenter has not been subpoenaed and with all the choir singers and other witnesses to examine it is doubtful whether Mrs. Gibson will be reached before Tuesday.

#### Evidence Found in Letters.

Highly important evidence is contained in the handful of letters written by Mrs. Mills which were placed about the two bodies. These letters were photographed for fingerprints, and some unusual results were obtained. It has been established that these letters were not carried to the scene of the murder by either Hall or Mrs. Mills, but were

in the possession of a third person, who either personally placed them on the bodies or had this done by others. Information comes from a reliable source that the letters were pilfered from the secret letter box in the church by a person who had been spying upon the couple for some time. This fact will establish a definite case for questioning one particular witness who has been summoned to tell his story. This man, it was learned to-night, had been called to account by Hall a few weeks before the murder. Hall had heard he was paying considerable attention to certain members of the choir, and several of the members of the congregation went to him about the matter. Hall at once sent for this man and told him what had been reported to him and cautioned him. The man in question has a wife and family. It is said that there were bitter words between this man and the rector at the time, but matters were smoothed over and the incident forgotten.

#### Hall Criticizes Choir.

It appears, too, that within a fortnight of the killings Hall had occasion to become incensed at the action of several choir members who laughed aloud at an evening service. Hall made this the subject of a sermon and then personally spoke to the members of the choir about it. Mrs. Mills was not one of those who had laughed, and when the talking to by Hall was finished several women of the choir approached her and said: "Of course you didn't do anything like that! You're too good!" They then talked among themselves and said plainly that they thought Hall had been urged to make these remarks and that Mrs. Mills knew he was going to preach about the behavior of the choir members.

Among the leaders of the sentiment against Mrs. Mills in the church was a woman who may be subjected to considerable questioning, although she has hardly figured in the case so far. It is also likely that her husband, heretofore unmentioned, may also be called to explain where he was on the night of the murder. He may be asked about certain automobile rides which he is said to have taken with one principal in the case. This man and his wife live not far from the scene of the slaying.

The woman was not friendly to Mrs. Mills and took no pains to disguise her dislike. On several occasions she spoke sharply to Mrs. Mills to her face.

Several members of the Grand Jury have visited the Phillips farm and the scene of the murder in the last two days. Others will visit the scene tomorrow on Mott's advice.

The local New Brunswick newspaper again to-night calls on the citizens of this neighborhood to come forward and furnish Mr. Mott with information. The editorial reads in part:

"The number of communications being received constantly by the press in reference to the Hall-Mills murder case indicates not only that a very keen public interest is being taken in the investigation but also that there is a strong possibility that some very important information is in the possession of persons who have not yet divulged it. Several important leads have been developed as a result of letters to the newspaper, but if the holders of such information had communicated it promptly to the authorities at the start of the investigation a great deal of trouble might well have been avoided."

"No matter who is guilty, that person should be brought to justice. Whatever may be personal opinions as to the merits or demerits of the murdered couple, the law provides that no offense justifies the taking of human life except by the State itself, after due trial and no other method of private punishment or vengeance can be tolerated. If society is to be protected itself, it must act to bring the perpetrators of this crime to punishment."

#### WOMAN RUNS DOWN DOE.

Sullivan County Lawyer Accident-ally Breaks Game Law.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.  
COHEN, N. Y., Nov. 25.—Miss Nellie Childs Smith, the only woman attorney in Sullivan county, inadvertently broke the game law a few days ago while motorizing from New York to Monticello with a party of women friends when a dog ran in front of their machine near the village of Harriman and was crippled so badly that a game warden shot the animal. The law does not permit the killing of a doe.

CANAL ST. FIRE HALTS TRAFFIC  
A fire that caused about \$5,000 damage in a six-story building at 206 and 208 Canal street yesterday afternoon necessitated the closing for about a half hour to Grand and other streets of the heavy tide of traffic bound for Brooklyn by way of the Manhattan Bridge. The fire started on the fifth floor, occupied by the Metal Stamping and Wire Drawing Company, and burned through the sixth floor, occupied by the General Novelty Company.

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